

REMARKS AND INTERVIEW REPORT

Claims 10-29 remain pending; claims 10 and 20 are independent claims. Claims 10 and 20 have been amended; claims 1-9 were previously cancelled. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

I. RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS.

Interview Report re: Objections and Rule 116 (Specification Amendments)

On October 25, 2007, the undersigned conducted a lengthy interview with Examiner Ferguson. The undersigned thanks the examiner for the time spent on this application. Several follow-on calls also have occurred.

The first subject was the Office's refusal to enter the previous after-final amendment. The Examiner questioned whether the amendments to the drawings and specification included new matter, and the undersigned showed the Examiner where the specification and drawings as filed originally supported each and every amendment. The Examiner stated that the showing met his satisfaction and agreed to enter the amendment.

Following the interview, the Examiner sent an interview report dated November 6, 2007, which did not mention this part of the interview at all. So, in response, the undersigned and his assistant telephoned the Examiner on several occasions, most recently yesterday, to inquire if the amendment could be entered after all, as promised. The Examiner promised to enter the amendment.

Finally, in yesterday's call, the Examiner explained, for the first time, that the problem was that applicants needed to resubmit the amendment, because the Office's electronic system would not allow him to reverse the decision to deny entry of the previous amendment based solely on an oral request (in the interview), but only in response to a petition, request for reconsideration, or resubmitted amendment. In view of the time that has passed while waiting for the Examiner to react to the interview, applicants are resubmitting the amendment, along with more detailed remarks confirming what was explained and agreed to in the interview.

RECORD
OK
MJP
12/10/07